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DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

Thursday, April 4, 2019
1:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
HB 852, HD1, Proposed SD1
RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE.

Chairs Wakai and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Taniguchi and Keith-Agaran and
Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports with recommended changes** on HB 852, HD1, Proposed SD1, which establishes the Hawaii State Energy Office as an attached agency of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism; and creates a board of directors and director of the Hawaii State Energy Office.

DBEDT comments on the following:

1. DBEDT would like to replace "director" of the Hawaii State Energy Office with "executive director." Most of DBEDT's attached agency heads are titled as Executive Director.
2. DBEDT recommends deleting the term limit of the Energy Office Director because this limitation will make it harder to attract the most qualified pool of applicants. On page 10, lines 8-9, please delete, "provided that the term of the director shall be coterminous with the term of the governor."
3. On page 10. Lines 18-20, states that the staff shall be exempt from chapter 76 and shall not be considered civil service employees. There are currently

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HB0852-PROPOSED SD1

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five (5) positions that are civil service within the Energy Office. DBEDT would like to keep these 5 positions as civil service with a phase out to convert these positions to exempt status.

4. On page 16, it notes that funding for the State Energy Office is provided through the Energy Security Special Fund (ESSF). Therefore, DBEDT would like to propose an appropriation section noting the positions and expenditure ceiling amount as follows.

FY 19-20	MOF	FY 20-21	MOF
5*		5*	
24#		24#	
4,887,258	B	4,887,258	B

5. DBEDT would also like to request in the appropriation section to include: Retain trust fund ceiling for Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust Administrative Expenses.

FY 19-20	MOF	FY 20-21	MOF
240,000	T	240,000	T

There may be more recommended changes that DBEDT will propose to the Conference Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

HB-852-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 3:23:44 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/4/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB852.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

HB-852-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 6:20:36 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/4/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments: